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7-30-01  
M.L.

[illegible]

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: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**SIR:**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE TITLE

Page 1, replace the Title with the following:

--Method of Identifying Cells Expressing a Protein Having Pre-B Cell Growth-Supporting Ability.--

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before line 1, please insert

~This application is a Continuation of U.S. Application Serial Number 09/182,563, filed October 29, 1998, now allowed, which is a Divisional application of U.S. Application Serial Number 08/624,650, filed May 22, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,914,252, issued June 22, 1999, which is a 371 of PCT JP94/01732, filed October 14, 1994.~

Al